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ASSISTANT	1735
DATE	23 April 51

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per CS 43-23

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16th Meeting

Subject: Plan LACK - Progress Report Report No.: PIR-9196
Place Acquired: Italy; Date: Leto of Info.: Jan.-Mar.'51
Evaluation: B-2 Date Acquired: April 1951
Source: C-1 Date of Report: 23 April 1951

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- On Thursday, 15 February 1951, at 130th hours, Source again met Subject of Plan, not having seen him since the beginning of January. Source remonstrated with Subject over the lapse of time, even though he already knew he had been absent from Rome and had later been ill. Subject confirmed these facts and explained that in December he had suffered a severe liver attack and that as soon as he returned from abroad he was stricken with influenza.
- The conversation next wandered on to inconsequential matters and to an uneventful discussion of current events. Then it was brought around to a discussion of Subject's own activity and the activity of others, which is summarized below.
- In reply to Source's question, Subject told him that the internal situation of the Israeli IS had cleared up and became consolidated around the previous existing organization without changes or constitutions. SHLON, who is the anticipated chief of the service, is in the Western sector and the man who is closest to him is Subject, whose advice is very much needed.
- Subject explained that the much-feared changes failed to come about because any removal or substitution of SHLON would have halted or slowed up the work in the Western sector and any removal of BOVIS (Imu), who knows the European and Asiatic east very well, would have caused serious difficulties to the Government in Tel Aviv and might have slowed up the flow of emigration from the non-Caucasian countries toward Israel, which would have been considered a serious damage to the little State.
- Subject went on to explain that in Israel the relationship among various elements of the population is almost paradoxical. The situation is unique in the world, but it is very important for defensive aims and functions, since the preponderance of men, mostly very young and suitable for bearing arms, over women is about 4 to 1. The unproductive part of the population and the part that cannot be used for defensive purposes (the old and the children) is a relatively small percentage. This situation enables the State of Israel to organize a proportionately impressive army in short order, which will be made up of men militarily trained and experienced in the greatest European armies, coming from the Red Army, the Polish Army, the Wehrmacht, etc. This constitutes a sum of experience which has its own value.

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6. But the situation in Israel, which is already firm, is rapidly improving, an improvement contributed to by the accords established with Transjordan, which blindly follows the political line favored by the Tel Aviv Government and constitutes a sizable thorn-in-the-flesh of the Arab League. Israel is endeavoring to become a State of ten million citizens. When it has reached this numerical proportion, it will no longer have any fear for the future and can brilliantly hold in check all of the Arab countries together.

7. Source asked Subject if he could furnish some information on TULLIO CASTIGLIONELLI, who apparently is an Israeli intelligence agent. Subject immediately said he is ~~an Israeli~~ and not TULLIO CASTIGLIONELLI, and that he is the man who has taken Ben AVIV's place. However, CASTIGLIONELLI is far from achieving Ben AVIV's production, since he lacks the capacity to run down information and to make useful friendships. Mr. CASTIGLIONELLI has the job, in view of his cultural preparation, of compiling reports of a political character for the Israel Legation, but from an espionage point of view, Subject said he is a fool. Subject went on to say that Silvio COHEN, who was a leg-man for Ben AVIV, no longer has any contact with the Israel Legation.*

8. Source comment: ²⁸ TULLIO CASTIGLIONELLI has taken Ben AVIV's position and uses AVIV's car, license A.I.L. 118. He is an Israeli citizen and is, among other things, assigned to preparing political reports for the Legation. He is also in contact with Minister Shlomo DASSARI.

9. In answer to a question from Source, Subject affirmed that the Israeli service is now regularly furnishing funds again as before, but that he personally feels the agent payments are excessively high (they are of the order of 200 to 300 thousand lire monthly); and that one of these days, such subsidization will have to cease.

10. Source asked Subject how and where he works. Subject replied that the top floor of the Legation at 2 Via Rom is completely at his disposition. His personnel includes two radiotelegraphists; one stenographer; two clerks; one accountant (MEKOM). Subject says he goes to the Legation every day, preferably toward evening, and says that he only needs an hour to complete his work.

11. The area of Subject's interest continues to be the Arab countries. Occasionally the agents gather information concerning other sectors, as for example Italy, but this is the result of comprehensible momentary exceptions, and is primarily due to their excess of zeal. The activity of the Israeli service is directed against the Arab countries and in particular against Egypt.

12. Italy is of interest to Israel for intelligence purposes only insofar as it is an observation point of the first order, because of the influence Italy still exerts in Africa, and because of the coordinating function which the Vatican tends to exert together and apart from the Arab League countries in protecting Vatican interests in Jerusalem, interests which run contrary to the rights acquired by the State of Israel.

13. "My task," said Subject, "and I want you to believe me without reserve, is purely of an informational (i.e., intelligence) character, and is not operating against Italy, but against the enemies of Israel." Subject went on to say that his not into Egypt is now in full operation.

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Reportedly recruited by Israeli TS and sent to Egypt

He said he has now succeeded in recruiting the (princess)(etc) (name) and he has recently sent her to EGYPT. Subject expects a considerable return from her, since she is a woman of some standing. She is capable and intelligent and has a wealth of possibilities in view of her connections. Then Subject went on to say that there is a former Italian colonel in Egypt (he did not remember the name-Subject's frequent failing) who furnishes information to everyone, to the Israeli (through Subject), to the Italian service, and to others, and according to Subject, he is an excellent source. Subject concluded by asking what there is in Italy, after all, which might interest the Israeli service?

14. Source said these were beautiful words, but an intelligence service, to establish contacts, and for the purpose of building up liaison equity, can have an indirect interest in and perform the work of other services. Naturally, Subject excluded such a possibility in his case. Finally he confided to Source that through one of his men, he has succeeded in obtaining virtually all the papers in the files of the Transjordan Legation at 25 Via Po and from the Iraqi Legation at 19 Lungotevere delle Rivoli.
15. Source Comment: He will cautiously try to identify the individual who is used indirectly by Subject, but it will be difficult to turn the operation, since Source is in a position to offer many smiles, but no money.
16. Subject gave Source some intelligence material (already forwarded to headquarters in microfilm). Then Source took this occasion to ask Subject if the same material had been passed to [] service. Subject replied that what he had given Source was exclusively for him, but that [] service received a lot of material directly from ESM NATAN, which Source has later observed reproduced in the DESINFEKTOR service monthly bulletin of "Foreign Countries."
17. Source Comment: In telling Source this, since Subject has entered into contact with [] Subject no longer complains, as he once did, that he was forced to be a mere messenger boy. It is clear that the role which Subject carried out now between ESM NATAN and [] service satisfies Subject's self-pride.
18. The relationship between FIDELA and PERIC (see previous reports) is rather tense. Subject claimed that he did not know the reason. Source Comment: It is known through [] that PERIC claims FIDELA owes him money and that the tension existing in their relationship does not have any other motive. It is really surprising that Subject does not admit to knowing the reasons.
19. Subject went on to speak of FIDELA's ability and of his own friendship for [] in rather glowing terms. Source had the impression that Subject wanted to portray his own contacts with FIDELA as being less cordial than they really are. It is a system Subject uses all the time. Subject spoke well, spontaneously, of [] from the general point of view, but from the point of view of intelligence work, Subject judged [] to be still improperly prepared to assume the functions ~~survived~~ to him. He then mentioned to Source

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per CSM 43-28

✓ 19. In the presence of two American officers at the offices of [] service, something which Subject has noted for some time, these officers, according to Subject, are in effect directing the intelligence activity of [] service.

20. Subject then spoke to Source about Maxim ILIAKIN (parented also ILIAKIN), who is still at Tel Aviv and has two European representatives: Emigre agent of the Cominform

- One in Switzerland, whose name Subject does not remember; and
- Marcus TIELEMANS (alias PIUS), 16 Via Indipendenza, Milan, Italy

ILIAKIN continues to take care of his business in Italy through the services of those two representatives.

21. Source Comment: Maxim ILIAKIN is known to the files as a suspected agent of the Cominform. The fact that he is represented by a man such as TIELEMANS (alias PIUS) tends to confirm his dangerous character from an intelligence point of view, since Marcus TIELEMANS is one of the men who handle the financing of the PCI through the multiform commercial activity involving ILIAKIN and the American Commercial Company. The other representative of ILIAKIN in Switzerland is probably Giorgio CHIACCHI, who was entrusted by ILIAKIN last summer with the errand to his competitor at Rome, PIERLUIGI TIELEMANS, to solicit the latter's influence with the Italian authorities for ILIAKIN.

22. During the course of the conversation, as soon as an opportunity presented itself, Source asked Subject for information about his friend, Cyril E. ROLO. According to Subject ROLO is now in the British Zone of Germany and has been there for two months.

23. Source Comment: ROLO, who was formerly second secretary of the British Embassy in Rome, had an intelligence assignment. In September 1950, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported that ROLO had ceased his designation, but in the following October ROLO had a talk in Rome with an individual known to Source. The possibility arose that ROLO had remained in Rome under cover. The fact that Subject was able to confirm ROLO's departure and give his new assignment confirms the existence of excellent contacts between Subject and ROLO.

24. The talk with Subject failed to bring out any new elements upon which a further evaluation of the man and his service could be based. It is necessary to recognize, however, that the Israeli service has consolidated its position and that its activity throughout the world seems to be considerable.

25. The following is a current analysis of Subject's service made from material available to Source:

- Directive personnel: Ettore CAVALLI, chief, PI-1171, assistant (st); Ettore CASTIGLIONI, who was replaced by ANTONIO (alias Vittorio VASSI) and has taken over the latter's org (KAPOL 1502, PI-1192, PI-1193-7549); (from PI-1170, assistant for CS (KAPOL 970, PI-1193, PI-1193-4677, PI-1193-5545, and PI-1193-5546);

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PER CSN 43-28

① HOSANNAH

Shimshon (a Simon)

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Rome, Ital

b. Employee: (fmu) YILIA, cashier and typist (st); (fmu) SHOSHANAH, wife of LUZIN (name possibly spelled SCIOSCIANAH); ABRAHAM KIDRON, chief of administration and of personnel (given as chief of service in Plan LUGSHIP (PIR-634), PIR-7733, KAPOK 1211); H

c. Photographic director: (fmu) GAHY, member of Palestine Committee of PLAN (st); and H

d. Radio transmitter (station: Nachman SUREN, son of Abraham (st); Shimshon LUZIN (PLU-5835 and PIR-6597). H

Subject does not use diplomatic cover because he believes it is superfluous, but in case of difficulty he could immediately obtain the designation of Secretary or Counsellor of Legation.

26. Source C has furnished a general summary on the material furnished in the previous Plan LUGY report regarding the Israeli intelligence service. The report reads as follows:

"It has been reported from a source whose reliability cannot be checked that leaders of the Israeli Army have undertaken a strong attack against the Israeli intelligence service for the purpose of taking over its control. If the military should succeed, the Israeli I.S., while not assuming a decisively philo-Soviet position, would develop its operations along Leftist criteria. This situation allegedly is due to the fact that in spite of the results of the elections which have given the Israeli parliament a Rightist majority, the MAPAM Party has succeeded in dominating the political life of Israel and in controlling the Army. The fight against the Rightists and against philo-oriental personalities is allegedly due to the hidden intrigues of the present Israeli service chief, SIMONI, who for personal reasons favors the military chiefs."

mail

DEPUTY asked that headquarters furnish an evaluation of the above report for his information.

27. A previously unprocessed fragmentary report states that on 10 January 1951 a confidential informant signified that a few days before, Edmond COHEN had departed by automobile, allegedly for Switzerland, and had returned to Rome on 6 or 7 January 1951. After this return, it is believed that he departed again for another mission, because his presence was not noted in the radio and photographic offices of the Israeli Legation in Rome. On 7 February 1951, it was reported that Subject had returned to Rome but as of 5 February he did not appear at his office in the Legation. However, on 8 February he took up his normal activity again, in his office in the Legation.

Field Comment: There are three main points of conflict in the service organization as given in Plans LUGY and LUGSHIP. The former tends to confirm the prime position of Subject, the subordinate position of KIDRON, and alleges the inactivity of Silvio COEN. The latter tends to confirm the activity of COEN, indicates the fundamental importance of KIDRON, and alleges the inactivity of Subject. Questioned regarding this conflict, Source stated that he believes both are lying in part. The evidence available tends to confirm, however, the fundamental enlargement of the Israeli service from the staff point of view.

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